

REMARKS

This application was filed with 27 claims. Claims 28-31 have been added by this amendment. Claims 1-20 have been allowed. Claim 24 has been objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim (Claim 21) but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant reserves the right to rewrite Claim 24 in independent form. Claim 22 has been indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 22 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 herein and thus is submitted to be allowable.

Reconsideration of Claim 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested. Claim 22 has been amended by deleting “said prompting steps” and substituted therefore “said prompts and acknowledgements.” Claim 21 has been amended to provide an antecedent for “said prompts and acknowledgements.” As amended, Claim 22 is submitted to be in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 17 and 18 have been similarly amended.

Reconsideration of Claims 21, 23, and 25-27, rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over James et al but in view of Chen et al, is respectfully requested. The patent issued to James et al discloses an emergency facility video-conferencing system enabling interactive communication between one or more spaced apart active locations having one or more rooms and a single remote supervision location, James et al claims at least one video camera, video monitor, audio speaker, audio microphone, light flasher in each room of the active

locations and communication links to the central office and a video camera, video monitor, audio speaker and audio microphone located at remote supervised locations. James et al does not teach or suggest or disclose any detection mechanisms nor provide any direct assistance such as prompts to anyone at the remote location. In contrast, it relies on those people at the remote location (emergency room personnel) being physically present in the same room as the patient to carry out the treatments recommended by the remote diagnosing physician. Computing means is provided for recording data, assembling data, displaying data, and reporting data in a variety of formats.

The patent issued to Chen et al only adds the disclosure of a health care system in which a plurality of video/audio devices are placed in various remote locations in which a health care administrator may monitor a patient from a single location, the computer for the system allowing the patient to be recorded and multi media data being stored in real time in the data base management portion of the computer.

The combination of the James et al and Chen et al references; however, do not teach or suggest a system whereby multiple actions to be performed at multiple spaced apart locations may be prompted, monitored and supervised from a single remote supervision location. In contrast, any combination of the James et al and Chen et al references require trained emergency room personnel at the remote location for performing treatments recommended by the remote diagnosing physician. Thus, any combination of the James et al and Chen et al references require trained personnel at the remote location with independent functioning minds, independent judgment, and the capability of receiving advice and counsel from a centralized

location but operating totally independently thereof. Applicant's method for interactive communication goes way beyond any combination of James et al and Chen et al as it totally provides both the information and the judgment required and prompts actions in a step-by-step fashion requiring acknowledgments between each action step prompting the patient to function alone without trained personnel at the remote sites. There is no teaching or suggestion in James et al or Chen et al of such a method.

Claims 22-26, 30 and 31 are each dependent upon 21. Thus each of these claims include all of the language of Claim 21 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as reiterated herein with regard to Claim 21. Claim 22 further requires:

“a pager worn by one or more persons being monitored and supervised from said remote supervision location, said pager being wirelessly operatively interconnected to said information exchanging means, whereby each of said prompts and acknowledgements may be performed through said pager.”

Claim 22 has already been indicated to be allowable by the Examiner if placed in independent form complying with 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim 23 further requires:

“both said video monitors and lights in said rooms of said active locations may be utilized to provide visual signals and prompts.”

Neither the James et al nor the Chen et al references whether taken alone or in combination with each other teach or suggest a method which provides video signals and prompts to a remote location.

Claim 24 further requires:

“said video monitors include touch screens operatively interconnected to said information exchange means, said touch screens collecting, organizing and accessing information contained in said information exchanging means, and providing interactive communication between said video monitors at said remote supervision location and at said active locations.”

Claim 24 has already been indicated to be allowable but for being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claim 25 further requires:

“means for shutting down said communication system during non-intervention hours, said means having a panic button thereon, said panic button signaling said remote supervision location and activating of the communication system.”

The James et al and Chen et al references whether taken alone or in combination with each other do not disclose any such panic button.

Claim 26 further requires:

“smoke and carbon monoxide detectors interconnected to said information exchange means, said smoke and carbon monoxide detectors signaling said remote supervision location when activated.”

The Examiner admits that the James et al reference does not disclose the claimed smoke, carbon monoxide detectors interconnected to the information exchange means. The Examiner utilizes Chen et al to suggest various sensors. However, neither the James et al nor the Chen et al references whether taken alone or in combination with each other, teach or suggest a remote location in which smoke and carbon monoxide detectors would be utilized. James et al teaches remote hospital emergency rooms. Chen et al discloses patient rooms. While hospitals may

have smoke and carbon monoxide detectors they are not usually located in each patient room and each emergency room.

Claims 28 and 30 further require:

“said video cameras are moveable to scan the room in which is located.”

Claims 29 and 31 further require:

“at least one detection mechanism and a detection mechanism receiver operatively interconnected through said information exchanging means, said detection mechanism being chosen from the group of detection mechanisms consisting of smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, motion detectors, intrusion detectors, door break sensors, window break sensors, and combinations thereof.”

Neither the patents issued to James et al or Chen et al whether taken alone or in combination with each other teach or suggest detection mechanisms such as Applicant claims.

Claim 27 is dependent upon Claim 25. Thus Claim 27 includes all of the language of Claim 21 and 25 and is submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as given hereinabove with regard to Claims 21 and 25. Claims 27 further requires:

“said smoke and carbon monoxide detectors also signal emergency communication system of the local fire department and police department.”

Claims 29 and 31 are submitted to be fully supported by Applicant’s specification at pages 25-26 and Fig. 8, and the fact that detection mechanisms are well known by persons of ordinary skill in the art to include “smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, motion

detectors, intrusion detectors, door break sensors, window break sensors, and combinations thereof."

For all for all of the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims presented, as amended, patentably distinguish Applicant's method from each of the references considered pertinent by the Examiner, whether taken alone or in combination with each other, and are in form for immediate allowance. Applicant respectfully solicits the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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